Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

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FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8422

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

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UNCLAS JERUSALEM 1465

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINS, IS, JO

SUBJ: FORMER HEBRON MAYOR SUGGESTS ARAB-ISRAELI RECONCILIATION

REF: JERUSALEM 1459 AND PREVIOUS

- 1. FORMER HEBRON MAYOR, SHEIKH MOHAMMED ALI JA-ABARI HAS PROPOSED A RECONCILIATION PARLEY BETWEEN A JEWISH GROUP FROM KIRYAT ARBA AND AN ARAB GROUP FROM HEBRON UNDER THE AUSPICES OF GOI DEFENSE MINISTER PERES IN ORDER TO PROMOTE BETTER RELATIONS BETWEEN ARABS AND JEWS IN AFTERMATH OF RECENT RELIGIOUS DISORDERS IN HEBRON (SEE REFTEL AND PREVIOUS.)
- 2. ACCORDING TO JERUSALEM POST, JA-ABARI PROPOSAL HAS DIVIDED KIRYAT ARBA SETTLERS WITH SOME CONCURRING AND OTHERS CONCERNED THAT SUCH A RECONCILIATION MEETING WOULD TACITLY IMPLY RESPONSIBILITY BE SOME KIRYAT ARBA PEOPLE FOR RECENT DISTURBANCES.
- 3. IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, TWO KIRYAT ARBA SETTLERS WILL BE CHARGED IN A BE'ER SHEVA COURT FOR INSULTING A HEBRON RE-UNCLASSIFIED

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LIGIOUS LEADER, ACCORDING TO ARAB PRESS REPORTS. LOCAL

HEBRONITES TOLD CONGEN OFFICERS THAT THE SHEIKH WAS PUBLICLY HUMILIATED SEVERAL MONTHS AGO WHEN ISRAELIS FORCED HIM TO REMOVE STONES WHICH HAD BEEN PLACED BY STUDENTS TO BARRICADE A ROAD.

4. COMMENT: WHETHER OR NOT JA'ABARI INITIATIVE IS ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH SIDES AND RECONCILIATION MEETING TAKES PLACE, IT IS INTERESTING FROM STANDPOINT OF HEBRON POLITICS TO SEE JA'ABARI ATTEMPTING TO ASSERT HIMSELF AS PEACE-MAKER AT EXPENSE OF CURRENT HEBRON MAYOR QAWASMI. NEWLIN

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TAGS: PINS, IS, JO, (JA-ABARI, MOHAMMED ALI)
To: STATE

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